



MEETING THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

2004

Biography

Mike McGrath

Assistant Chief - Procurement Operations - Space Science NASA GSFC

Mr. McGrath oversees the acquisition activities for all Space Science Programs and Projects managed at the GSFC, including the Hubble Space Telescope (HST), James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), Sun-Earth Connection, Structure and Evolution of the Universe, and the Explorers Programs, as well as the Space Sciences Directorate at the GSFC. Mr. McGrath's organization performs all types of acquisitions, from simplified acquisitions to high dollar R&D hardware and services contracts, which are needed to carry out the Space Sciences mission. Under his leadership, procurement professionals develop acquisition strategies, prepare solicitations, conduct proposal evaluations and source selections, negotiate and award contracts, and administer contracts until completion.

Mr. McGrath began his career at the GSFC in 1982 as a Contract Specialist and gained experience through a variety of assignments for sole source and competitive R&D, supply, and services contracts. He has served as a Contracting Officer and Business Management Committee Chairperson for major Source Evaluation Boards and has served as a voting member on several contractor Performance Evaluation Boards under award fee contracts. In 1992, he was promoted to Branch Chief for the Orbital Launch Services procurement office, acquiring Small and Medium Class Expendable Launch Vehicle services for GSFC payloads. From 1996 to 1999, Mr. McGrath managed the Space Sciences Directorate procurement office, overseeing a large operation that included the awarding and administering of all GSFC and NASA Headquarters grants and cooperative agreements, in addition to the Space Sciences contracts workload. From 1999 until his appointment as Assistant Division Chief in 2003, he served as the Branch Chief for the HST and JWST Project procurement offices, overseeing several significant acquisitions, including the Phased Progressive Downselect competition for the JWST Observatory.

Mr. McGrath received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. He has received several awards during his career, including the GSFC and NASA Exceptional Achievement Awards, the Manned Flight Awareness "Silver Snoopy" Award, and the Management Operations Directorate Supervisor of the Year Award. He is married with two children and resides in Laurel, MD.



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